AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please enter the following amendments without prejudice or disclaimer.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the claims

Claims 1-22 (Canceled)

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): An isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein comprising a proteoglycan receptor$^+$ mutation in Site B, wherein Site B is equivalent to amino acids from about 3358 to about 3369 of the human apo-B100 protein and wherein the mutation comprises at least one amino acid substitution or deletion of at least one of Lys_{3363}[[,]] or Arg_{3362}[[, ~~or Arg3364~~]].

Claims 24-28 (Canceled)

Claim 29 (Previously presented): The polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein according to claim 23, wherein said at least one amino acid substitution in site B is an amino acid a residue selected from the group consisting of Gly, Ala, Val, Leu, Ile, Phe, Tyr, Trp, Cys, Met, Asn, Gln, Asp, and Glu.

Claim 30 (Previously presented): The polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein according to claim 23, wherein said mutation in Site B comprises replacement of all of the arginine residues and lysine residues with neutral amino acid residues.

Claim 31 (Previously presented): The polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein according to claim 30, wherein said arginine residues are replaced with serine residues and said lysine residues are replaced with alanine residues.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): The polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein according to claim 23, wherein said amino acid sequence from position 3358 to 3367 is SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, ~~SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10,~~ SEQ ID NO:13, or SEQ ID NO:14~~, or SEQ ID NO:15~~.

Claim 33 (Previously presented): The polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein according to claim 23, wherein said mutation in Site B is at position 3363 and the lysine residue is replaced with a glutamic acid residue, and the amino acid sequence from position 3358 to 3367 is:

Thr_{3358}-Arg_{3359}-Leu_{3360}-Thr_{3361}-Arg_{3362}-Glu_{3363}-Arg_{3364}-Gly_{3365}-Leu_{3366}-Lys_{3367} (SEQ ID NO:1).

Claim 34 (Previously presented): An isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein comprising a proteoglycan$^-$receptor$^+$ mutation in Site B, wherein Site B is equivalent to amino acids from about 3358 to about 3369 of the human apo-B100 protein and wherein the mutation comprises at least one amino acid addition to site B.

Claim 35 (Previously presented): The polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein according to claim 34, wherein said mutation in Site B is an addition of a single amino acid between positions 3362 and 3364.

Claim 36 (Previously presented): The polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein according to claim 34, wherein said at least one amino acid addition to site B is selected from the group consisting of Gly, Ala, Val, Leu, Ile, Phe, Tyr, Trp, Cys, Met, Asn, Gln, Asp, and Glu.

Claim 37 (Previously presented): The polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein according to claim 34, wherein said amino acid sequence from position 3358 to 3367 is SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18 or SEQ ID NO:19.

Claim 38 (Previously presented): An isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein comprising a proteoglycan$^-$receptor$^+$ mutation in Site B, wherein Site B is equivalent to amino acids from about 3358 to about 3369 of the human apo-B100 protein and wherein the

mutation comprises a deletion of amino acid Arg_{3359} or a substitution of amino acid Arg_{3359} by an amino acid selected from the group consisting of Gly, Ala, Val, Leu, Ile, Phe, Tyr, Trp, Cys, Met, Asn, Gln, Asp, and Glu.

Claim 39 (Previously presented): The polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein according to claim 38, wherein said amino acid sequence from position 3358 to 3367 is SEQ ID NO:11 or SEQ ID NO:12.

Claim 40 (New): An isolated and purified polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein comprising a proteoglycan$^-$receptor$^+$ mutation in Site B, wherein Site B is equivalent to amino acids from about 3358 to about 3369 of the human apo-B100 protein and wherein the mutation comprises at least one amino acid substitution or deletion of Arg3364, wherein said at least one amino acid substitution in site B is an amino acid a residue selected from the group consisting of Gly, Ala, Val, Leu, Ile, Phe, Tyr, Trp, Cys, Met, Asn, Gln, Asp, and Glu.

Claim 41 (New): The polynucleotide encoding an apo-B100 protein according to claim 40, wherein said amino acid sequence from position 3358 to 3367 is SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, or SEQ ID NO:15.